

## **SC Victim Service Coordinating Council MEETING MINUTES**

April 11, 2008, 1:30pm  
Edgar Brown Bldg. Rm 415, 1205 Pendleton Street, Columbia, SC

**Present:** Vicki Bourus, Marvin Bryant, Leigh Caldwell, Dottie Cronise, Barbara Grissom, Joanna Katz, Dean Kilpatrick, Surleaner Smith, Ashlie Lancaster, Jeff Moore, BJ Nelson, Tricia Phaup, Bob Rightsell, Sandi Wofford.

**Absent:** Nancy Barton (out of town), William Bilton (out of town, sent Paula Calhoun), Hope Blackley (pre-existing obligation at meeting's scheduling), Shannon Staley (situation at work), Veronica Swain, Carol Woodard (out of town).

The meeting was called to order and the contractor read a statement regarding VSCC operation in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act. Dean moved to approve FOIA compliance, and Bob seconded; compliance was approved unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was approval of minutes. Ashlie moved to approve minutes, Dottie seconded, and minutes were approved unanimously.

The VSCC welcomed new member Leigh Caldwell, who will be replacing Dottie as the LEVA representative.

The contractor showed members the new VSCC letterhead and logo designs.

The contractor requested nominations for the second crime victim representative slot on the VSCC. No nominations were made, and there was some discussion of ideas. It was decided that the contractor would continue to solicit nominations at the next VSCC meeting.

Ashlie provided an update on the VSCC's draft legislation. The bill is in the Senate Judiciary Committee and has been amended several times. Amendments include restricting the benefit that may be paid on SOVA-authorized counseling sessions, reinstating the language on "witnesses" back into the bill, and capping the hourly requirements for certification of victim service providers. The bill is expected to go to subcommittee in two weeks, and VSCC members will continue to monitor progress. Members of the VSCC requested that Ashlie send out a copy of the "talking points" regarding the legislation; she will send to the contractor who will insert in letterhead PDF before sending to members. Bob made a motion that the legislation be amended for an effective date of January 2009. Tricia seconded, and it was unanimously approved. Ashlie will handle communicating this to legislators.

The certification subcommittee of the VSCC will convene to work on content and logistical considerations for certification of victim service providers and will present recommendations at the next VSCC meeting. It was suggested that Hope continue to chair the committee and that the committee split up to address content issues versus logistical issues. Leigh, Tricia, Vicki, Dottie, and Paula volunteered to assist on the committee along with existing members William, Surleaner, Bob, Hope, BJ, Dean, Ashlie, and Marvin (Barbara had been listed previously but does not wish to serve at this time). Paula suggested that the committee

examine certification systems used by the Criminal Justice Academy and the Bar Association for models of logistical coordination. Dean suggested that the committee consider any research that might be wise to include within applications for grandfathering (e.g., baseline data on training received). The contractor will contact Hope and facilitate scheduling of the committee meeting; conference call services will be made available as needed.

The contractor noted that she has burned audio CDs of the panelist presentations from the previous meeting and will make copies for members upon request.

Tricia will chair the Safety and Accountability Audit committee and will convene a meeting of the committee this summer. The contractor will meet with the committee to discuss funding options and possible next steps. VSCC members are encouraged to think about potential sites across the state that may be receptive to this type of systems review.

Jeff moved to disband the committee that had been formed to examine the clerk-of-court issue, which is now moot. Ashlie seconded and all approved.

Members of the legislative committee—Ashlie, Hope, Shannon, Jeff, and William—indicated that they will convene and elect a chair as the need arises.

The next meeting of the VSCC was set for Monday, May 12 at 1:30pm. The meeting will be in the Brown Building, with room number to be announced.

Marvin motioned to adjourn the meeting, Ashlie seconded, and all approved.